

## PLACID CHELSEA.

[Continued from 8th page.]

tertown, Mass., as a dry goods clerk for Otis Bros., and later to Lowell and Lawrence, remaining seven years. He returned to Chelsea at the time of his father's death in 1872 and has been a resident of the town ever since, engaged in trade. In 1884, he enlarged his store to accommodate his growing trade, and in 1888 he purchased the site of his present store, moved the store on and made an addition used as a jewelry store and also finished Masonic hall. His business, small at first, has largely increased and he now carries an excellent line of groceries, a full line of crockery and glassware and is doing a good business for a country town.

He married Sarah J., daughter of Elisha Burgess of Chelsea, in 1880. Their three children are Emma W., Ned B. and Laura. Mr. Hatch has been a deacon of the Cong'l church for a dozen years or more. He is Worshipful Master of the Geo. Washington Lodge, No. 51, F. & A. M., of Chelsea. Since the death of Aaron Davis in 1882 he has been trial justice of the peace in town, is a thorough-going Republican and takes a liberal interest in all public improvements.

### Dr. Nathan G. Hale

Is an excellent type of the old school country gentleman. Although his hair is silvered with the snow of more than four-score winters, his form is erect, his eye clear and his mind active and cheerful. He is the oldest man living in the village who was born here, and his memory of early scenes and men is remarkably clear. His grandfather, Nathan Hale, was a merchant at Rindge, N. H., prior to the Revolution. He was captain of a company of minute men and in less than twenty-four hours after the battle of Lexington, his company was armed, equipped and on the march. He was subsequently promoted through every grade to the colonelcy and before he died, at the age of 73, he commanded the 3rd N. H. regiment. His wife was Abigail Grant, a woman of uncommon ability. Colonel Nathan Hale's two sons, Nathan and Harry, were for a time engaged in trade at Windsor, Vt. They came to Chelsea in 1806. Nathan Hale brought to the new town a handsome capital for those days and good business ability. He built and resided in the house now owned and occupied by Capt. W. H. H. Hall, and died at that place in 1849. He, with his brother Harry, was in trade. They built the gristmill in the



village, aided liberally in building the church and in other public enterprises. For many years he owned and kept the old Orange County hotel, afterwards burned.

Nathan Hale reared a family of five children, viz., Raymond, who was a merchant at Stratford, Williamstown and North Troy, Vt. He had one son, Col. Oscar Hale, a graduate of Dartmouth College, who was colonel of the 6th Vt. regiment, and died in Buenos Ayres, 2d John Tyler Hale, a wholesale merchant in Boston, who died in Washington, Iowa, leaving three children, 3rd, Mary, wife of Ralph Hartford, merchant at Stratford, Vt., who left one daughter, Mrs. Martin Love. 4th, Stella Jane, married Channsey Smith of Washington, D. C., who was connected with the appointment desk of the postoffice department forty years. Their son, Nathan A. C. Smith, a graduate of Norwich University and a lawyer at Green Bay, Wisconsin, raised and drilled three regiments, was offered the command of each, but, being a modest man, declined and accepted a captaincy in the last regiment. Since the war he has been in the postoffice department, clerk of the appointment desk.

Nathan Grant Hale was born in Chelsea in 1812, attended the common and select schools of the town, spent one year at the Orange County Grammar school and one year at Thetford academy, under John Fitch, the first principal. When he was sixteen years of age he entered a store at Keene, N. H., as clerk, and after remaining two and one-half years, returned to Chelsea. He soon after engaged in trade at Potton, Canada, and later at North Troy, Vt., where he was justice of the peace and postmaster. He went to Boston in 1838 as assignee for Hale, Lyman & Farnsworth and remained three years. Returning to Chelsea he was in trade there four years and was town clerk. In 1850 he went to Windsor, Vt., engaged in dentistry and remained there in the extensive and successful practice of his profession thirty-seven years. While in Windsor, Dr. Hale took an active part in the religious, social and business life of the town. He was president of the Windsor Savings bank, was affiliated with both the Masons and the Odd Fellows and was senior warden of St. Paul's Episcopal church. Dr. Hale married Lucia P. Hall of Tunbridge in 1840, who died in 1848. She had one child, Henry Clay Hale, who died in infancy. He married Fanny Gustin of Chelsea in 1851. She bore him one child, Stella Fanny, who died in 1882. Mrs. Hale died in 1893.

Having retired from business, Dr. Hale came to Chelsea on a visit in 1887, and, owing to illness, continued to remain and resides with his sister-in-law, Miss Sarah Gustin. In politics

he was an old-line Whig and is now a Republican.

Loved and honored and surrounded by the scenes of his youth, may his closing years be like the mellow radiance of an autumnal sunset sinking behind the western hills.

### Elgin D. Barnes

E. D. Barnes is best known to the local and travelling public as the gentlemanly proprietor of the Orange county hotel. There were numerous families by the name of Barnes located on West Hill not many years ago, but they were only remotely related. Farnham Barnes came from Connecticut as a young man early in the century, built a log cabin on West Hill and cleared up a farm. He married Mary (Flinders) Bean, became a substantial farmer, reared a family of four children and died there in 1871. The farm is now owned and occupied by Azariah Barnes, one of his sons.

Elgin D. Barnes was born on this farm in 1846, and in the frugal but substantial fare and sturdy labors of the farm, developed a stalwart form and strong physique. Leaving home at twenty-one, he worked out on farms several years, after the manner of the times, receiving the highest wages. Desiring a wider outlook in the world, he made a tour of observation, including the oil regions of Pennsylvania and a portion of New York and finally brought up at Holyoke, Mass., where he was engaged for some time as a merchant and hotel keeper. Returning to Chelsea on a visit, he soon engaged in the meat and grocery business, running a cart to the Ely mines and securing a lively trade for two years until the closing up of business there. About this time Mr. Barnes formed a life partnership with Carrie O., daughter of Samuel W. Hatch of Chelsea.

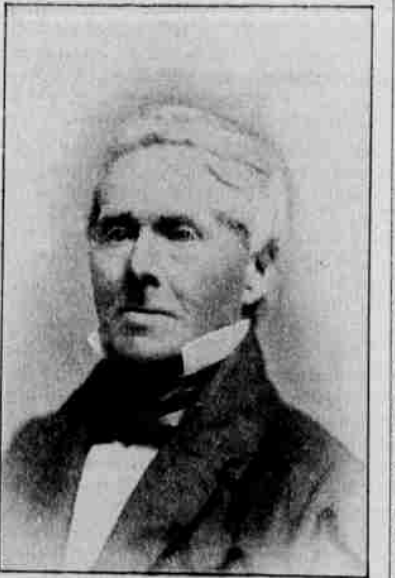
Their only child, Choroene, is nine years old. The business of selling fruit trees was not then considered extra hazardous, as the legislative reunion had not then passed the bill extending the open season of shooting apple-tree peddlers and book agents, and Mr. Barnes worked on a salary at this business quite successfully for two seasons. He found this business a good school for the study of human nature and local geography. He served a useful apprenticeship as hotel keeper at the Gulf Spring house at Williamstown. In 1887 he bought the Orange County hotel of A. W. Whitney, repainted and thoroughly furnished it and has decidedly increased the patronage of this well-known hotel. It is a substantial, three-story building with a double balcony and contains 45 guest rooms. During the sessions of the Orange county court and the county conventions, as the headquarters of legal lights and political aspirants, it has witnessed many a lively scene, many a tilt of repartee, and, perhaps, the making and breaking of political slates. During the last five years the house has received considerable summer company accommodating more last summer than ever before, with a good prospect for the future.

Mr. Barnes is having excellent financial success in keeping a strictly temperance house. We have partaken of the good cheer often and heartily, and always found the bill of fare and the table service abundantly satisfactory. Mr. Barnes is not only a genial and popular host, but is recognized as a valued and public-spirited citizen. He is a member of George Washington Lodge, F. & A. M., and holds the somewhat thinkless office of overseer of the poor.

### Daniel Hildreth

Son of James Hildreth and Esther (Etcher) Hildreth, was born in Pepperell, Mass., May 2, 1783. He was of Puritan ancestry and was fifth in descent from Richard Hildreth, who was born in the north part of England in 1605 and arrived in this country in 1635, with a colony of Puritans. He first settled in Cambridge, Mass., and afterwards moved to Chelmsford, where he died Feb. 23, 1693, aged 88 years. In 1814, Daniel married Clarissa Tyler of Piermont, N. H., a lady of education and refinement. They immediately moved to Chelsea, where a farm had been purchased of Zebe Gilman in 1810 (Records in Vol. 4, pages 457-8). Here they, by toil, industry and enterprise, converted this farm from a rugged maple forest to fields of waving grain. They reared in the strictest manner a large family of children, of whom only four are living. Daniel died on the Hildreth homestead November 16, 1858.

Azro B. F., the eldest child, was born



in 1816. He learned the printer's art of William Hewes of Chelsea in 1837, and followed the business for 35 years. In 1856, he removed to Iowa, where there was a wide field of usefulness and enterprise and where he became very wealthy. He was four times married and left no children.

Almira M., born in 1818, married Edward Wason of Corinth, who died in 1883. She still lives on the Wason homestead and has two daughters living, Myra and Laura.

Albert B. was born in 1829. He learned the harness making trade in 1850, and in 1862 enlisted for three years in Co. G, 9th Vermont. He was twice married and removed with his wife to Charles City, Iowa, in 1891. He

has been very prosperous as to financial matters and recently built a dwelling house at great cost. He has three children.

Harriet N. was born in 1831. She was educated at the district schools, Bradford academy and Chelsea High school. On April 22, 1847, she received her first school license of Dea. John W. Smith, superintendent of common schools for the town of Chelsea, and taught the following summer twelve weeks on the West Hill for only five shillings per week. It being pleasant work to her, she taught for several years. In 1855, she married Lyman Porter of Corinth. He being a business man, much care devolved upon her, but her duties were performed cheerfully and with fidelity and zeal. For thirty years she has been a contributor to several weekly newspapers in Vermont. In February, 1886, she received a commission as special correspondent and local editor for the New England Homestead, printed at Springfield, Mass. She has one child, John L. Porter, born in 1864. He was reared tenderly and was kept at school, not being very strong in youth. He graduated in two courses at St. Johnsbury academy in June, 1885. In 1887, he commenced to learn the banking business in Littleton, N. H., under O. C. Hatch, cashier. He followed the business until February, 1895, when, for the benefit of his health, he decided to change business. He is now located in Springfield and is proprietor of a high grade furniture store and has a special department in undertaking and embalming. In 1892, he married Eleanor M. Hodgman of Boston, daughter of the late Frank Hodgman of Littleton, N. H., and niece of Hon. Adna Brown of Springfield. She is a lady of fine artistic talent, and has received instruction from the best teachers in America. She has been engaged to sing in the Congregational church at Springfield, as solo soprano, for the present season.

### Bixby

Ichabod Bixby, Sr., and his wife, Lydia Orentt, with a family of small children, moved from Stafford, Conn., to Chelsea (then called Turnersburg), in 1787. They did not know that there was a single settler between them and Canada, but afterwards learned that a Mr. Denning had settled in Williams-



Herbert O. Bixby.

town. They reared a family of nine children, and afterwards went to live with one of their sons, named Ichabod. Their children were as follows: Abigail and Newell, who died unmarried, Lydia, Mrs. Roger Hibbard of Brookfield, Ebenezer, who married Hannah Flint of Randolph and reared eleven children. Ichabod married Sukey Lewis. Their children were F. Plummer, Lura, Mary, Martin, John, Susan, Harriet, Sarah, George and Hira, elsewhere mentioned, residing on the old homestead.

Ichabod married Persis May and had a family of nine children. Nathan married Lydia Lathrop. Their children were Urbane, Lucinda, Eliza, Carrie, Maryette, Orville, elsewhere mentioned, and Edson. Daniel married Thury Spiller and they had five children. Sally married Joel Densmore and reared a large family. Polly married Deacon Charles Newton of West Plattsburg, N. Y., and reared a large family.

Soon other settlers joined the Bixbys. The earliest were Bradshaw, Elder Hall, Elder Coburn, Flint, House, Willis, Elderkin, Lewis, Perigo, Wiggin, Smith, Annis and Urbane Lathrop, Sr.

For bread, they bought corn at Royalton and paid for it in salts made by boiling down the lye of wood ashes.

Mr. Bixby and his wife were members of the Congregational church of the Puritan type, but the children had many shades of religious belief, as Christian, Methodist, Baptist.

One summer provisions were scarce. All that the family had to live on for some time was one bushel of rye meal and the milk of one cow. They had a piece of rye growing for an early harvest, and Mrs. Bixby put the family on short rations of boiled milk with a little rye meal stirred in it, till the needed crop ripened.

Captain Orville, son of Nathan and Lydia Lathrop Bixby, was born in Chelsea in 1835 and spent his early life on a farm. He went to Boston when he was eighteen years old, and later was engaged in the produce business and was in trade at South Royalton. He responded to the first call for three months' men, but before his regiment had been sent to the field, the call for three years' men had come and he had enlisted for that time, entering the service as second lieutenant of Co. E, 2d Regiment, Vermont Volunteers. He was afterwards promoted captain, and refused the rank of major. He participated in 17 of the famous battles of the war, beginning at Bull Run and ending at the Wilderness, where he lost his life, after three years of actual service, while gallantly leading his regiment as acting colonel.

His son, Col. Herbert O. Bixby, was born in 1861 at South Royalton, while his father was at the front. His mother was formerly Frances Willis, daughter of Perley C. Willis, of the noted family of pioneers on West Hill, and here Herbert and his mother returned after the husband's enlistment. Herbert was educated at Chelsea academy and Goddard seminary.

He was employed as clerk, first with E. R. Hyde & Co., and later with J. B. Atwood, where he was assistant postmaster. The store burned in 1892. In May of that year he went temporarily to Springfield, Vt., but remained a year and a half. He was appointed postmaster at Chelsea in 1893, a position



Perley C. Willis.

which he still holds. He carries a good line of stationery, magazines and dailies.

Mr. Bixby is best known as Division Colonel of the Sons of Veterans of Vermont. As a charter member he assisted in organizing Camp H. E. K. Hall of Chelsea, in 1886, was elected its first captain, and unanimously re-elected for three successive terms. In 1899, the camp received 96 per cent on inspection, the highest rank of any camp in the division. At the annual encampment of 1899, he was placed in command of the division, having already, in the four years since his connection with the order, served as division council, chaplain and major.

We quote as follows from the National Reveille, the official organ of the Sons of Veterans:

"In his old and deeply felt as common brother of the division, he has made a record of which he may well feel proud, having done good work in reuniting old camps, as well as organizing new ones. The division records will stand as a grand monument to his painstaking work. The fact that a complete record of every brother, so far as obtainable from the camp, is on the books at headquarters, will serve to illustrate the faithfulness and attention he gave to details. Colonel Bixby married Grace M. Noyes in 1886, and has two charming little girls. He is a member of George Washington Lodge, No. 51, F. & A. M., of Chelsea."

The same thoroughness and efficiency that marked his work as a division commander is exemplified in his business life and his genial manners at home have won him a large circle of friends.

### John M. Comstock

David Comstock was best known to the public as the long-time proprietor of the Gulf Springs house of Williamstown, but spent his later years and died at Chelsea.

John M. Comstock was born at Williamstown in 1829. He fitted for college at Goddard seminary, Barre, and graduated from the classical course at Dartmouth in 1877. His first engagement was in the fall of 1878 at Chelsea. He taught a year in the Springfield High school. In the year 1884-5 he taught in the Vermont Episcopal Institute at Burlington. In the fall of 1885 he was called to Chelsea by the sickness of his father, and remaining for a time to settle the estate, was called the ensuing April to the principalship of Chelsea academy, and has remained here ever since. The school was recovering from a period of weakness, and in 1884 had been reorganized by Harmon J. Locke, now of Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Comstock brought to his work ripe scholarship, mature experience and continuity of purpose and effort. The aim of the school has been to do thorough work in the regular studies essential to a practical English education, also in those studies required in a preparatory course for college. Perhaps the prevailing fault of recent modern education is the attempt to cover too much, resulting in superficial instruction.

Several students of this academy have been admitted to Dartmouth, Tufts and other colleges. Mr. Comstock feels a personal interest in his pupils, who are largely children of neighbors and friends, and has given especial attention to civics and instruction in good citizenship. J. M. Comstock married Persis S., daughter of Franklin and Sylvia (Folsom) Dearborn of Chelsea, in 1881. Six pretty children add cheer and liveliness to their pleasant home: Harold D., Donald S., Margaret, Rachel, Sylvia and Herbert F. Mr. Comstock has been closely identified with the cause of education in this section.

He was a member of the Orange County Board of Education in 1889-90. He was elected school director for three years, but resigned after two years' service, and is at present clerk of the school board. He has served the town in the capacity of moderator, auditor and town grand juror, and is county treasurer.

He has been, since 1887, superintendent of the Sunday school of the Cong'l church, has taken a deep interest in religious work, and is at present clerk of the church and chairman of the executive committee.

He is corresponding secretary of the general convention of Cong'l churches of the state of Vermont, and in that capacity prepares the annual statistics of the churches of the state. He is also the statistical secretary of the Alumni Association of Dartmouth college.

### Dr. Marcus H. Corwin

Passing down Chelsea street the attention is attracted by a large mansion just below the M. E. church that seems the product of the past generation, in excellent repair and preservation. This is the family home of the Corwins, the present residence of Dr. Marcus H. Corwin and has been occupied for 41 years by two generations of the family. It is one of the oldest houses in the village

and a portion of it was occupied nearly a century ago by Dr. Thomas Winslow of revered memory.

Marcus H., son of Russell Corwin, was born in Chelsea in 1839. His literary education was obtained at Chelsea academy, for a time under the instruction of Chief Justice Jonathan Ross. Mr. Corwin took three courses of medical lectures at Dartmouth college, from which he received his diploma in 1863. He began his practice at Cookville, in the adjoining town of Corinth, and remained there seventeen and one-half years in active practice and then removed to Chelsea, where he has since resided and practiced. He reports that during this time there has been no epidemic of diphtheria or typhoid fever, which shows the remarkable healthfulness of the town and a careful observance of sanitary laws. He has been a member of the White Mountain and also of the Vermont State Medical societies of the allopathic school.

Dr. Corwin married Ellen L., daughter of Lyman K. E. and Mary (Heath) Collins of Corinth in 1865.

Mrs. Corwin was a granddaughter of Capt. Isaac Heath, formerly an extensive land owner and prominent citizen of that town.

They have three children, viz.: Carl H. Corwin, a graduate of Chelsea academy, and of Dartmouth college in 1887, the third in his class and winning the prizes in French and German, also a graduate of Chicago theological seminary, taking there both prizes in Hebrew, and who is now settled pastor at Kaukauna, Wis.; Lucy E., wife of Walter H. Emery of Chelsea and Alice L., a student at Chelsea academy. Dr. Corwin and all his family are members of the Cong'l church; he has served several years on its executive committee and is one of the trustees and is a man of integrity and exemplary life and character.

### Charles P. Dickinson

Perhaps no other family of Chelsea has been so continuously and extensively connected with the mercantile affairs of the town as have the Dickinsons.

Joshua Dickinson was one of the earliest merchants of Chelsea, where he was in trade many years, as was his son, Benj. F., the father of the subject of the present sketch. I am informed by old residents that Wm. F. Dickinson, "Bill Dick," was one of the brightest and most successful business men that ever lived in Chelsea.

Benj. F. Dickinson was deputy sheriff a long time, and later became sheriff of the county and was in charge of the jail building a score of years or more.

C. P. Dickinson was born in 1847 in Chelsea, attended the academy under Judge Ross, later at Newbury seminary and at the Randolph Normal school under Edward Conant.

Soon after attaining his majority, he went to Boston and engaged as clerk for Moore, Smith & Co., and so valuable



were his services that his firm retained him in its employ 17 years. He returned to Chelsea in 1866, and in company with W. P. Townsend, bought the stock of general merchandise of John B. Bacon and continued the partnership about five years, when Mr. Dickinson purchased Mr. Townsend's interest. He carries an extensive and well-classified stock, is a jovial and entertaining salesman, always ready for business, of which he gets his share. He married May, daughter of George Goodrich of Chelsea, in 1893.

Mr. Dickinson inherits the practical business sense of the family. He is serving his third term as selectman, and is now chairman of the board. He was town clerk two years. In political action a Republican, in religious preference a Congregationalist, and affiliated with Masonry, Mr. Dickinson possesses in a good degree, public and private esteem.

### Capt. W. H. H. Hall

Three successive generations of the Hall family have borne an honorable part in the three great wars of the Republic.

Capt. John Hall, Jr., the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a minuteman of the Revolution, attained the rank of captain and was one appointed on a committee to fix the rate of wages of the volunteers.

The Halls are of an old, influential and numerous family, and the family mansion, of the old colonial style, faces that of the historic Adams family in the town of Quincy, formerly Braintree, Mass. The granite quarries of Quincy are located on the old Hall farm.

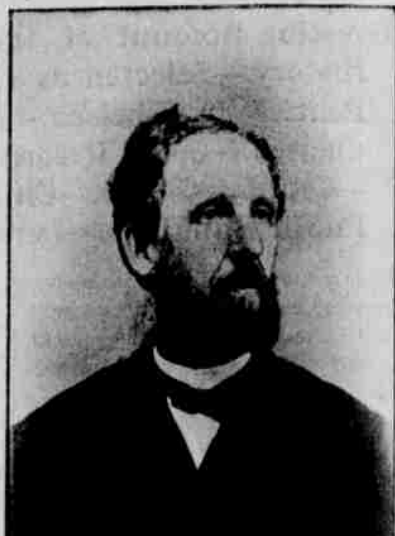
Edward Hall, born in 1771, was a soldier of 1812 and was at the battle of Plattsburg. He came to Randolph in early life and was a hatter and furrier by trade. His wife (nee Sarah Downer of Royalton) barely escaped capture at the burning of Royalton, and her father, Ephraim Downer, and one brother were captured and taken to Canada.

William Henry Harrison Hall was born at Randolph in 1823. As a sample of the times, it may be interesting to state that at 14 years of age, Harry drove a herd of 65 cattle to Boston, a road unknown to him, and the next year drove down with a loaded four-team of 75 acres in Chelsea village, stocked it with fine Jerseys, and in the care of his place and stock and such public positions as he has accepted, he is passing the autumnal days of an active and prosperous career. He takes a lively interest in every public

Pitt Kellogg of Louisiana. After leaving the University, he established his father's family on a farm in Warren.

At the age of 24, this aspiring Yankee went to "Old Kenton K." to teach the young idea how to shoot. His trip via Erie, Penn., mostly by canal and steamboat, was a long and interesting one. He brought up on foot at Campbellsburgh, Ky., and there organized a select school of the aristocracy, for the Coombs and other families. A year was spent in teaching, varied by the amusements of the huskings and coon hunts, and when young Hall returned he was able to go by rail from Pittsburg, via Philadelphia and New York.

In May, 1849, he left Boston on board the ship New Jersey, bound for the newly-discovered "Land of Gold," via Cape Horn. One hundred and twelve days brought them to Callao, the seaport of Lima, Peru, where he landed with a comrade, and was offered \$4.00 per day as a civil engineer, to assist in the construction of the first projected railway in South America. Several amusing incidents happened here. Once young Hall got mixed up with some monks in a cathedral and for once was brought to his knees. The



time of the natives was just about equally divided between religious observances and bull fights. Here the shipmates spent their last money for provisions, which consisted of a very meagre supply of pilot bread and salt pork, with a pint of water each per day. After a trip of 164 days from Boston, they landed at San Francisco in October, going ashore in a row boat to a mushroom city of adobe houses, shanties and tents. Walking up the beach with only a ten-cent bit in his pocket and an "aching void" where his breakfast ought to be, he was accosted with, "Hallo, Stranger. Do you want a job?" "What do you pay?" "A dollar an hour." "You bet." His job was lugging boards and planks on his back. He worked so hard to earn his pay and was so unused to toil that the next day he was all worn out and felt like an older brother of M. H. H. Hall.

Remaining four months as bookkeeper at a hotel, he pushed out for the Southern mines, following the wheel track on foot, with a kit of miner's tools on his back, through a region blooming with beautiful wild flowers and the air laden with their perfume. A California blackbird roasted over a brush fire, unplucked and undressed, together with a salad of hunger sauce, formed a delicious feast. He found his old shipmates at Mormon Gulch, staked out a claim by setting up his tools, took supper, went out and broke off a piece of gold, worked on the jump until pitch dark, camped, took a severe cold, a fever set in, and he took the next wagon train back to "Frisco." The lucky man that got his claim took out \$5,000 in a few days. On June 14, 1850, he came very near being a victim of the great fire that swept over San Francisco, which started in the hotel where he was clerk. "A blessing in disguise," for it cleared the ground for better buildings. With a singed head, blistered face and bruised limbs, homeless, penniless and hungry, Hall spent the night wrapped in a borrowed blanket, was given a breakfast by a Vermonteer and a good job as purser on a Columbia steamboat, Lot Whitecomb, by another. The keel of this good boat, 200 feet long, was made from an Oregon pitch fir, 310 feet long. Hall soon became a pilot on the Lot Whitecomb, was the first to take the soundings and was the first commissioned pilot on the Columbia and Willamette rivers. He was a pilot for four years.

In 1856, he returned to Vermont, and married Sarah A. Foster. They have had two children, S. Ada Hall, wife of J. B. Bacon, and H. E. K. Hall, who was killed in 1881 by the accidental discharge of a gun in his own hands, and for whom Hall Camp, Sons of Veterans, was named.

Returning to Oregon, Mr. Hall was made captain of the Iris, a fast boat on the Columbia river line, and later on the steamboat Fashion.

Returning to Warren on a visit in 1861, fired by the spirit of '76, he raised a company of men at Warren, joined the Sixth Vermont as captain of Co. G, crossed and recrossed the bullet-bolting cauldron of Warwick creek, was taken sick with a fever and was discharged for physical disability after a year of service. He again returned to the Pacific coast as steamer captain and remained until 1866, when he went to the oil regions of Pennsylvania, to assist his brother in the prosecution of a lawsuit involving \$300,000, and they won the suit. As a result of this, Capt. Hall assumed the management of two farms in the Pitt Hole oil section, leased and sold land and operated wells during the time that the oil fever was at its height. His family moved there and he remained until 1874, witnessing the tremendous panic of '73, which pricked the bubble of inflated prices and caused the distress and crime which followed. The tremendous pace which he had set in business was wearing on his strong constitution, and in 1871 he bought his present fine homestead of 75 acres in Chelsea village, stocked it with fine Jerseys, and in the care of his place and stock and such public positions as he has accepted, he is passing the autumnal days of an active and prosperous career. He takes a lively interest in every public